

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Finance closure

The finance office closes at noon today for an office function. For emergencies, call (332) 425-6422 or contact the command post at Ext. 7020.

### Poster contest

The deadline for the Military Family Month poster contest is Monday. Entries should be turned into the center. The contest is open to ages 6 to 12. Posters should be half sheet poster board depicting “Why Military Families are Special.” Prizes are awarded to the winners at 4 p.m. Dec. 5 at the exchange.

### Assignment night

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 03-03’s assignment night is at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the Columbus Club. Call Ext. 2489.

### Enlisted promotion

The monthly enlisted promotion ceremony is at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Columbus Club. Call Ext. 7294.

### Family day

There is a family day Nov. 29. Civilians must take liberal leave, earned or comprehensive time for overtime already worked, time-off awards or sick leave if appropriate. Military people leaving for more than 72 hours must take leave.

### Volunteers needed

Volunteers are still welcomed in the recovery effort from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m Mondays through Saturdays through mid-December. They are needed to help staff the Disaster Relief Center. The Red Cross also needs hand’s on volunteers. For more information or to volunteer, call 329-3975.

## Mission Report

As of Wednesday

<b>T-1A</b>	<b>T-37</b>
Goal: 1,561.0 hrs.	Goal: 1,889
Flown: 1,565.7 hrs.	Flown: 2,243
<b>T-38A</b>	<b>T-38C</b>
Goal: 779	Goal: 264
Flown: 950	Flown: 264



Airman Alexis Lloyd

### Dorm style Thanksgiving

Maj. Chuck Shea, 14th Comptroller Flight commander, serves Senior Airman Tyrone Powell, 14th Operations Support Squadron, at the Dormsgiving Tuesday. The dormsgiving was for single, unaccompanied airmen and officers.

# Civil engineers win AETC awards

**Airman 1st Class Chawntain Young**  
Public affairs

The 14th Civil Engineer Squadron won three Air Education and Training Command awards at the AETC/CE Commanders Conference awards luncheon in Randolph AFB, Texas, Nov. 7.

The winners were also nominated to compete Air Force-wide for the Outstanding Civil Engineer Manager of the Year for Senior Military Manager, Harry P. Reitman Award for Outstanding Senior Civilian and Brig. Gen. Michael A. McAuliffe Award for Outstanding Housing Flight.

Lt. Col. Michael Hass, 14th CES commander, Michael Smith, 14th CES environmental flight chief, and the 14th CES housing flight were among many other civil engineers recognized for their achievements.

Hass won the AETC Outstanding Civil Engineer Manager of the Year for Senior Military Manager award based on his job performance, initiative, resourcefulness, management and technical ability.

“I was extremely pleased to see our good folks were being

recognized at the command level for the outstanding work they do on a day-to-day basis and very surprised I was one of them,” Hass said.

Smith was honored with the AETC Harry P. Reitman Award for Outstanding Senior Civilian based on his job performance, initiative, resourcefulness, management and technical ability.

“I was humbled and very appreciative my supervisors put me in for the recognition,” Smith said. “I announced to my environmental folks I won the award based on their accomplishments, and they, too, should share the award.”

The 14th CES housing flight was decorated with the AETC Brig. Gen. Michael A. McAuliffe Award for Outstanding Housing Flight. It cited their achievements in implementing the overall housing program, meeting Air Force goals, and high-quality customer service in the areas of management, assistance, facilities and furnishings.

“I was on temporary duty and came back to find an email stating we had won the award,” said Debra Caspell, 14th CES housing flight chief. “As hard as this year has been for [the housing flight] ... I was pretty excited, doubly gratified and proud of the people I work with.”



2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore

Children at the Columbus Public Library listen to a story read by Capt. Sean Hosey, 48th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot, for “Share a Story Day,” Saturday.

## Columbus AFB volunteers read to children at local libraries

**2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore**  
Public affairs

Columbus AFB volunteers spent Saturday morning in surrounding towns reading to preschool and elementary school children as part of a statewide “Share A Story” campaign.

In honor of National Children’s Book Week, volunteers visited the Columbus-Lowndes, Starkville and West Point public libraries to participate in a two-hour reading marathon.

Col. Steve Schmidt, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, was one of the celebrity guest readers at the Columbus-Lowndes location. Columbus Mayor Jeffrey Rupp and popular characters, Uncle Bunky and Mother Goose, also entertained the crowd.

“This program is great because it fosters learning in a fun and entertaining environment and that helps

instill a love of reading in children,” said ‘Uncle Bunky,’ played by Robert Williams, Lowndes County Sheriff’s Department juvenile officer.

Each child who attended the event received a free book bag with a book, activities and stickers. The bags also included instructional information for parents regarding effective ways to read to their children.

Mississippi Educational Broadcasting Network officials began planning and coordinating the event in late August. Similar reading celebrations will occur throughout the state over the course of the next year and involve the efforts of dozens of volunteers.

Brenda Caradine, local events organizer, said the successful day attracted more than 250 children and parents.

Caradine also sends thanks to: Capt. Sean Hosey, 1st Lt. Evan Gallegos, 2nd Lt. Kipp Parker, Master Sgt. Mable Brackens, Tech. Sgt. Kevin Mott, and Airman Alexis Lloyd for their participation.



## Report cards for contractors

**WASHINGTON** — The Air Force is undertaking an initiative to encourage better contract performance by providing a “report card” to the board of directors of any company that has been awarded an Air Force contract.

The service hopes this report card, consisting of contract cost performance reports, will be reviewed when a company’s board is determining their chief executive officers’ annual salaries and bonuses.

“It’s basically a tool to get the attention of both the board of directors and the CEOs of these companies to reinforce that this contract is important to the Air Force,” said Dr. Marvin R. Sambur, assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition at the Pentagon.

The Air Force has already included this “report card” clause in two contracts. Future contracts will also include this clause clearly outlined in the requirements.

“Our goal is to provide our customer, the warfighter, with the best equipment on schedule and at expected cost,” Sambur said. “If we can’t, we are hindering our ability to continue the transformation necessary to keep this nation safe throughout the 21st century.” *(Courtesy of Air Force Print News.)*

## Iraqi forces fire on aircraft

**WASHINGTON** — Iraqi forces fired anti-aircraft artillery Sunday and Monday at coalition airplanes enforcing the northern no-fly zone over Iraq.

Both attacks came from positions northeast of Mosul, Iraq, defense officials said.

In both instances, coalition aircraft responded by dropping precision-guided munitions on Iraqi air defense elements.

The exchanges of fire do not differ much from hundreds of others over the past 11 years, said a U.S. official.

But these strikes and others in the past week are of particular interest to world leaders because they come after the signing of a new U.N. Security Council resolution that authorizes strong repercussions for such aggression.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said Sunday the U.N. Security Council would decide if such attacks constitute a material breach of its Resolution 1441.

Also coalition aircraft dropped 120,000 leaflets around the town of Ar Rumaythah, roughly 100 miles southeast of Baghdad Sunday.

The leaflets urge Iraqi military forces not to engage coalition aircrews. They also lay out the consequences of such actions so the local civilian population can understand the situation, according to information released by the U.S. Central Command in Tampa, Fla.

The 3-by-6-inch flyers, written in Arabic, were dropped in two “leaflet bombs,” fiberglass containers that explode over an area, allowing their contents to scatter and drift to the ground.

U.S. Central Command officials said this was the fourth leaflet drop in the past eight weeks. *(Courtesy of Air Force Print News.)*

## How well do you know your Airman’s Manual?

1. How full should sandbags be?

See Page 16 for answers



# Celebrate this holiday season with CAFB festivities

**Airman 1st Class Chawntain Young**  
Public affairs

Columbus AFB celebrates Christmas with various activities sponsored by different Columbus AFB organizations.

Pre-holiday festivities like the Angel Tree, Happy Christmas Fund and Santa visits provide an opportunity for people of all ages to get involved.

People can support a family in need by taking a paper angel ornament off one of the Angel Trees located at the exchange, chapel, personnel and wing headquarters buildings until Dec. 19.

Each ornament lists the desires, needs, ages, sexes, clothing and shoe sizes of the children of one Columbus AFB family; their names are confidential.

People choose what items to buy and drop off the

wrapped gifts with the ornament attached to a first sergeant or the FSC by noon Dec. 19. The first sergeants deliver the donated gifts to the families Dec. 20.

“Christmas is a very stressful time of year, and if a family is hurting financially, it compounds that stress,” said Master Sgt. Paul McClain, 14th Mission Support Squadron first sergeant. “The angel trees give the community a chance to buy Christmas gifts for children who may not otherwise receive gifts.”

Santa visits the exchange from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 30, Dec. 7 and 14 to take pictures with and give candy to the children.

A “Letters to Santa” mailbox is located at the front of

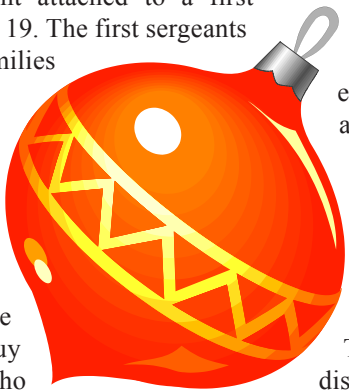
the exchange, and children can drop off their wish lists and letters until Dec. 4.

“My son is 5 years old, and, to him, Santa is everything,” said Steve Peña, base exchange general manager.

The 50th annual Happy Christmas Fund begins at 7 a.m. at the exchange and 8 a.m. at the Columbus Club Dec. 4.

Volunteers use money donated throughout the year to the Happy Fund to buy school supplies, clothes and other special gifts at the exchange. They wrap the gifts at the club and deliver them to disadvantaged children in the Columbus-Lowndes county school district.

During the holidays, it is especially important to step away and do something nice, so Columbus AFB is providing these services with the hope these activities will bring the atmosphere of the Christmas spirit, Peña said.



## AF provides care for mildly ill children

**WASHINGTON** — The Air Force has begun a six-month test of a new program to provide child care for mildly ill children who are unable to remain in regular, on-base facilities.

The Mildly Ill Childcare Program is designed to reduce parents’ overall costs for child care and the time they must be away from their jobs caring for their children, said Beverly Houston, family member program specialist in the Air Force services directorate.

“In the past, parents have had to either take leave or find another child-care setting and pay additional costs when their children had a mild illness,” Houston said. “This program will allow the parent to still perform his or her military mission and avoid the cost of additional child care.”

Implementation of the test phase began in November and should be complete by January, Houston said.

During the test phase of the program, a family child care provider will be selected at each of 25 Air Force bases around the world. The Air Force will then buy out that provider’s business, funding it as though the provider was operating at full capacity.

The Air Force-funded child care slots will be kept empty until they are needed for mildly ill children who have been removed from the regular child care facility.

According to Houston, parents will not pay for the care in the mildly ill child care homes. Instead, parents will continue to pay their weekly child care fee at the Air Force child development center, school-age care program or other family child care home.

Those selected as child care providers under the Mildly Ill Childcare Program must already meet the requirements to be an at-home, child care provider, Houston said. Additionally, the Air Force will look for a special type of child care provider.

“We will look for (a person) who may be a registered nurse or another specialized provider,” She said.

Houston said that all providers selected will also undergo medical training specially designed to help them deal with mildly ill children.

Currently licensed family child-care providers interested in selection as a mildly ill child-care provider should contact their services squadrons. *(Courtesy of Air Force Print News.)*



2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore

### Recyclable clothes

**Linda Norman, child development center care giver, and her daughter, April Knight, Christina Morgan and Carla Cunningham, contestants in the first Pulp Fashion Show, show off their recyclable creations Saturday. Contestants made their costumes from household waste to help promote recycling and anti-litter campaigns. Norman came in second place.**



**Air Force recruiter**  
**Staff Sgt. William Shuttleworth**  
**2321C Hwy. 45N**  
**Columbus, MS 39705-1715**  
**(662) 241-5811**

# Wing commander thanks base for helping downtown

**Col. Steve Schmidt**  
14th FTW Commander



It’s with great pride I extend my most heartfelt “Thank You” to the men and women of Columbus AFB for their outstanding work and contributions in support of the disaster recovery effort in downtown Columbus.

More than 300 volunteers from the BLAZE team selflessly pitched in with chainsaws, tools, gloves and some sweat to help our community recover and start to rebuild from the devastating tornado last week. Hundreds more donated food and supplies.

At 11 a.m., the morning after the storm, we initiated a call to the base families. Amazingly, by 1 p.m., our folks had donated a truckload of food that was delivered to

victims by 2 p.m. I later learned our donation was one of the first and only to be received by the victims during that horrible day after the storm. When the buses and vehicles started arriving on scene with volunteers from the base, the local chief of police practically had tears in his eyes as he shook my hand and thanked me for the help.

Seeing the need was so great, we continued collecting donations at the family support center on base. Maj. Jim Davis, 14th Mission Support Squadron commander, with Capt. Chad Segura, 2nd Lt. Sharon Gregory, and Master Sgt. Mable Bracken (plus their excellent staffs) set up and staffed a collection site, arranged transportation to ship the donations downtown (making up to four deliveries per day), and communicated specific needs to the base community.

The response was so overwhelming the FSC began keeping a register of donors and contributions just to document the effort.

I thank you for your extreme generosity.

There were so many examples of great effort and

teamwork. I wish I could recount them all, but let me share just two examples of selfless service. One superstar who made a huge difference the first day was Ben Sala, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron. He was responsible for repairing an electric generator moments before sunset, which turned the lights on. Besides the fact that no one else in town could get the generator working, Mr. Sala accomplished this monumental task after he’d already assisted the recovery effort non-stop since the previous night.

As another example, Senior Master Sgt. Chris McCollor did a great job forming and directing teams to remove debris at the Mississippi University for Women. It looked like a war zone at first, but his calm coordination kept things under control and accomplished a major task.

Although it will take months to fully recover, Columbus can at least start the rebuilding process now, thanks to the concern and generosity of all the people who helped.

Your efforts did not go unnoticed. You made a positive difference in the lives of countless individuals during a time of great need. I salute you all!

## Eagle Eyes — Do you have ‘em?

**Maj. Leonard Grassley**  
14th Security Forces Squadron commander

We all know, or should by now, that “Force Protection” is everyone’s responsibility and requires a team effort to protect our people, mission and equipment.

No one can do it alone, but each one of us can make a difference.

Whether you’re at work, off base, visiting a friend, or even enjoying that weekly round of golf, you are probably best suited to recognize something unusual or threatening in and around those places you are most comfortable.

The Air Force wants to capitalize on this and believes every one of us can make a difference. From this idea, office of special investigations in Washington D.C. started a nationwide program last year known as “Eagle Eyes” urging citizens to report anything that looked suspicious.

We must all realize a terrorist attack doesn’t

just happen. Days, weeks or even years are spent planning and “casing” a potential target. It’s during this time we can make the difference and save lives by recognizing unusual activity and reporting it before an explosion rips through one of our facilities.

The security forces are, of course, our first-line of defense, but we’re limited in our ability to recognize activity on or off base that could be unusual. That’s where you come in. You know who lives next door to you, and you probably know the type of car your co-worker drives; these elements of information may normally seem harmless but could possibly be fundamental in recognizing an uninvited situation.

So what should you be looking for? Obviously, anything out of the ordinary should be suspect. By observing routine details, a one-time irregularity may indicate warning signs.

See EAGLE, Page 5

## STRAIGHT TALK LINE

*The Straight Talk Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better. Although the Straight Talk Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain of command.*

*The Straight Talk Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their full name and phone number to receive an answer. All names are kept confidential. Messages are answered in the Silver Wings without names.*

*Written questions may also be brought to the public affairs office in the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 724. People can also access the Strait Talk program through the Blazeweb and the main website at [www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil).*

*Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.*



## SILVER WINGS

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## Key phone numbers

Base Exchange.....	434-6013
Chaplain.....	434-2500
Civil Engineer Service Desk.....	434-2856
Civilian Personnel.....	434-2635
Clinic:	
Family Practice.....	434-2172
Appointment Desk.....	434-2273
After Hours Care.....	434-2273
Columbus Club.....	434-2489
Commissary.....	434-7106
Finance.....	434-2706
Housing Maintenance.....	434-7270
Inspector General.....	434-2927
Legal Office.....	434-7030
Military Equal Opportunity.....	434-2591
Security Forces.....	434-7129
Shoppette.....	434-6026



# Safety equipment helped save my life

**2nd Lt. Ryan Nelson**  
14th Civil Engineer Squadron

I recently survived a frightening accident that provides testimony to the fact that the Air Force safety program saves lives.

Three co-workers and I traveled an hour and a half to inspect the fire department at Shuqualak Auxiliary Airfield, maintained by Columbus AFB, Oct. 18. The remote airfield consists of only the fire department, runways and taxiways.

Part of my job is to provide military members the chance to hunt. As a fellow hunter myself, I always jump at the chance to do this sort of thing. As senior base game warden, I planned to ride our all terrain-vehicle on the remote installation to survey potential wildlife food plots. These plots are used to improve deer hunting on the installation.

As the safety inspector started making his rounds at the fire department, I thought, "Here's my chance to go look around and make it back in plenty of time before the inspection is over."

When I opened the garage where the ATV is housed, I grimaced at what I used to call the worst part about riding an ATV on base ... the safety gear. Riders on all Department of Defense installations must wear a helmet, gloves, safety goggles, catcher-style shin-guards and a chest plate. Fifteen pounds heavier and 15 minutes later, I was finally on my way.

As I rode around the perimeter fence, I saw a deer stand across an area that had been freshly cleared of all trees. Considering myself an experienced rider, I drove the ATV over the rough terrain on my way to the stand. Carefully navigating through the stumps and brush, I made my way to the blind not noticing the deep brush-covered ditch I was about to ride into.

As the ATV went nose first into the ditch, I put the ATV into 4-wheel drive and attempted to climb out the other side. With all four tires spinning, I decided that if I got off of the ATV, pushed it to the left and out of the ruts that I

was making, I could find enough traction to climb out. I wat! Cong.

Back on the ATV, I gave it sqEcgas and once again the tires began to spin. Unexpectedly, the tires grabbed and threw the ATV back and to the side. As it began to flip, I was tossed onto my back in the bottom of the hole. All I could do was watch helplessly as the ATV rolled and came crashing down on my chest, pinning me to the ground.

The ATV came to rest on its side, with only one tire and my protective chest plate keeping its entire weight from crushing me. Unable to reach the kill switch, the ATV continued to idle in gear. All I could think about was removing the massive pressure from my chest and getting out from under the vehicle.

I finally managed to push the ATV up far enough to get the weight off my chest and let it rest on a second wheel, but it was still pinning me at the waist. Due to the confining nature of the hole, I could only lift the ATV a few inches. It wasn't enough to get myself out from beneath the idling machine. Each time I pushed up on the ATV, the tires would lift off the ground, and the wheels would begin to spin quickly due to the lack of resistance.

Pushing with all my strength on the bottom of the ATV, my hand slipped into the chain. The chain caught the glove on my right hand and jerked it in between the chain and the rear sprocket, stopping the turning wheels. Luckily, my right ring finger was the only digit caught in the gear, and as I ripped it out, I saw blood running out of the glove and down my arm. Trying to regain composure and keep



2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore  
**Second Lt. Ryan Nelson, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron, inspects a hanging scale.**

pressure on my finger, I began to feel nauseous and light-headed due to heavy exhaust fumes from the smoky engine.

Pinned to the ground with absolutely no strength left in my body, I felt helpless. Scared that I might pass out, I began to pray. I thought if God could help me get out of this one without hurting myself further, I would do anything. That's when I remembered my cell phone deep in my right pocket.

The problem was the fact that my right hand was hurt and the ATV was resting on my waist above my phone. I didn't have enough strength in just one arm to push the ATV up to get my hand into my pocket to reach the phone. I tried frantically, but to no avail.

Just then I looked down and couldn't believe my luck — during the commotion my phone had fallen out of my pocket onto the ground.

See LIFE, Page 9

## EAGLE (Continued from Page 4)

Unfortunately, suspicious activities are often reported after an attack occurs.

The following is some insight into terrorist's planning prior to attacks:

- ❑ Surveillance involving someone recording or monitoring activities. This may include the use of cameras (either still or video), note taking, drawing diagrams, annotating maps or using binoculars or other vision-enhancing devices.
- ❑ People or organizations attempting to gain information about military operations, capabilities or people. These attempts may be made by mail, fax, telephone or in person.
- ❑ Security tests, including any attempts to measure reaction times to security breaches, to penetrate physical security barriers or procedures in order to assess

strengths and weaknesses.

- ❑ Supply acquisition involving the purchase or theft of explosives, weapons or ammunition. This category also includes acquiring passes or badges (as well as the equipment to manufacture such items), military uniforms, decals, flight manuals or any other controlled items.
- ❑ Suspicious people who don't seem to belong in the workplace, neighborhood or business establishment. This category includes unusual activity in unusual places, avoiding authority figures or even people jumping over fences.
- ❑ Dry runs, or putting people into position and moving them around, according to a plan without actually committing a terrorist act. An element of this activity could also include mapping

out routes and determining the timing of traffic lights and flow.

- ❑ Asset deployment, or putting people and supplies into position, in preparation for a terrorist act. This category represents the last chance for people to alert authorities before a terrorist act occurs.

Any of these activities should be reported immediately to the security forces law enforcement desk once recognized. "Eagle Eyes is an essential component of a successful force protection program," said Col. Mike Swaney, Air Force Reserve Command director of security forces. "Just as fighter aircraft rely on radar and other defensive systems to reduce their vulnerability and increase their effectiveness, the Eagle Eyes program uses human "sensors" to help identify and

investigate suspicious activity," he said.

Once suspicious activity is reported, the security Forces/OSI will investigate.

Even if nothing is found or a valid explanation clarifies a particular activity, investigating these events alone provides a significant deterrent.

The Eagle Eyes program takes advantage of our own familiarity with our surrounding area and provides a force multiplier for the Wing's antiterrorism program.

You too can be our "first-line of defense."

Use your "Eagle Eyes" and remember to report any unusual activity to the security forces investigations section at Ext. 7125 or the law enforcement desk at Ext. 7128 or Ext. 7129.

# Budgeting now saves seeing first shirt later

**Airman 1st Class Chawntain Young**  
Public affairs

It's that time of year again. The season everyone loves when it starts and hates when it ends. That's right — it's the holiday shopping season.

Tired of struggling after the holidays leave nothing but a bunch of costly credit card bills and an empty wallet?

A little pre-holiday budgeting and planning can help make holiday shopping what it should be — fun and carefree.

"Being an airman, I don't get paid a lot, so it's important I sit down before the holidays and outline a plan before I hit the mall," said Airman Tiara Glover, 14th Medical Operation Squadron.

Never budgeted before and think it's too late in the game to start now?

Here are some helpful tips that will make life less stressful and leave you with a little extra cash.

- ❑ Create a holiday budget or spending plan and set limits on the amount of money you plan to spend.
- ❑ Make lists of gifts, decorations and food items you need to buy.
- ❑ Plan time to shop. Running around on lunch hours, evenings after work or

shopping with young children can be exhausting and not very productive. Arrange a day or a half-day to do your shopping. Consider trading babysitting time with a friend.

- ❑ Shop efficiently. Read newspapers and sale fliers for specials. Do some comparison-shopping. Shop early in the day and week — Monday through Wednesday — as the malls tend to be less crowded.
- ❑ Take a pre-determined amount of money to prevent overspending.
- ❑ If using a credit card, paper clip an index card with a pre-determined amount written on it. Write down each purchase or keep receipts to track spending. Try to use just one card, preferably the one with the lowest interest rate.

And last, but certainly not least, try to save the emergency fund for an actual emergency.

Who knows when you might be stuck with a broken radiator or four flat tires.

What if your favorite Aunt Myrtle passed away? Wouldn't it be a shame if you spent your emergency fund on that fuchsia cashmere pantsuit Aunt Myrtle wanted for Christmas and couldn't afford a plane ticket to see her off?

According to Master Sgt. Mable



Airman Alexis Lloyd  
**Airman Tiara Glover, 14th Medical Operations Squadron, balances her check book.**

Brackens, 14th Mission Support Squadron Family Support Center superintendent, last holiday season, from December through January, the Air Force Aid Society loaned Columbus AFB people almost \$8,000 for vehicle repairs, rent, utilities, food, travel expenses and funeral expenses.

So, don't get caught in the trap of thinking it's what you buy that matters. Remember, the holidays are a time for spending time — not money — with loved ones.

No amount of money spent could ever compare to those precious little moments together.

# Don't let holiday blues turn into suicidal thoughts

**Capt. Todd A. Tice**  
Life skills support center

(Editor's note: This article is in recognition of National Suicide Prevention Week.)

While many in the Air Force family are preparing to celebrate the year's most joyous moments, many others are not.

Some people can become so depressed during the holiday season and feel so alienated from others that they can't stand it and may see suicide as the only solution. Suicide may become a way to take control of their pain.

A suicide attempt may also be the only way to let other people know they need help.

The health of the United States Air Force people continues to be a high priority at Columbus AFB and other bases worldwide.

The Air Force has recognized the importance of increasing suicide prevention awareness at all levels as a key component to maintaining a healthy force.

Serious symptoms like hopelessness, worthlessness and suicidal thoughts are quite severe. Also, having these symptoms may not necessarily be associated with suicide but could be indicative of deteriorating mental health.

If you recognize these symptoms in yourself, talk with

supervisors, family, friends and peers about what you are experiencing. Continuous passing thoughts of suicide represent a risk factor and indicate help should be sought.

If these thoughts develop into a suicidal plan, then seek help immediately.

Many Air Force people are afraid to seek help because they fear information they reveal will damage their careers. However, more than 90 percent of people who

voluntarily seek mental health services have full confidentiality.

The results of one Air Force study revealed that out of 500 active-duty people referred to mental health, only two percent lost their security clearances.

The bottom line is this - if you or someone you know is suicidal, the benefits of seeking help far outweigh the consequences of a lost life.

## A person might be suicidal if he or she —

- Talks about committing suicide
- Has trouble eating or sleeping
- Experiences drastic changes in behavior
- Withdraws from friends and/or social activities
- Loses interest in hobbies, work, school, etc.
- Prepares for death by making out a will and final arrangements
- Gives away prized possessions
- Has attempted suicide before
- Takes unnecessary risks
- Has had recent severe losses
- Is preoccupied with death and dying
- Loses interest in their personal appearance
- Increases their use of alcohol or drugs

## Contact numbers

If experiencing problems or feeling suicidal call these numbers for help:

- On base —
- Life skills and family support center - Ext. 2239
- Family advocacy - Ext. 2197
- Chapel - Ext. 2500
- Family practice - Ext. 2273
- Direct commanders, first sergeants and supervisors
- If the crises is urgent —
- Command post - Ext. 7020
- Emergency - 911
- 24-hour off base help —
- Helpline - 328-0200
- Teen Line - 328-4327



# Holiday recipes from Columbus AFB people

## Company Potatoes

5 to 7 potatoes, cooked, peeled and diced  
4 to 6 strips of bacon, cooked  
1/3 pound cheese, cubed  
1/2 cup onion, diced  
1 cup mayonnaise

Mix together and bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit about 20 to 30 minutes or until hot and bubbly.

## Tortilla Soup

1 can chicken broth  
1 can beef broth  
1 can cream of chicken soup  
1 cup water  
2 tablespoons steak sauce  
2 teaspoons cumin  
2 teaspoons chili powder  
1 teaspoon cayenne or one can Rotel (optional)  
2 cups diced cooked chicken

Over medium high heat, mix first three ingredients together in a saucepan, stir with a whisk. Add spices and chicken. Continue to cook for 10 minutes until piping hot. Add frozen corn and more canned tomatoes for a heartier soup. Serve with tortilla chips grated cheese and a dollop of sour cream on top.

## Hawaiian Turkey Skillet meal

1 cup onion, cut into 1-inch cubes  
1/2 cup each green and red peppers, cut into 1-inch cubes  
1 tablespoon margarine  
2 cups turkey, cut into 3/4-inch cubes (leftovers)  
1 can (15.5 ounces) pineapple chunks, drained, save juice  
1/2 cup orange juice  
1 tablespoon lemon juice

1 1/2 cornstarch  
1 teaspoon each lemon pepper and basil  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 8-ounce container of lemon yogurt  
4 servings cooked rice or egg noodles

In large skillet over medium heat, cook onion and pepper cubes in margarine for three to four minutes, add turkey and cook two to three minutes until heated. In small bowl,

combine pineapple, orange and lemon juice, cornstarch, lemon pepper, basil and salt. Stir into turkey mixture until thickened. Remove turkey mixture from heat and stir in yogurt and pineapple cubes. Return skillet to burner for two to three minutes until entire mixture is heated throughout. Serve over rice or noodles. (Cooking tip: Yolk-free noodles, non-fat yogurt and salt-free lemon pepper may be used.)

## Apple Cranberry Crisp

1 1/2 cups quick cooking oats  
1/2 cup brown sugar  
1/3 cup all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1/3 cup butter flavored shortening, melted  
1 tablespoon water  
1 (16 ounce) can whole berry cranberry sauce  
2 tablespoons cornstarch  
5 Granny Smith apples - peeled, cored and thinly sliced

Preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. In a medium bowl, mix together the oats, brown sugar, flour, and cinnamon. Stir in the melted shortening and water to form a crumbly mixture. In a large saucepan, mix together the cranberry sauce and cornstarch. Bring to a boil, and then remove from heat. Stir in the apples. Spread into an 8-by-8-inch glass baking dish. Crumble the oat mixture over the apples. Bake in the preheated oven for 30 to 35 minutes, or until the apples are tender. Serve warm.

## Chocolate Chip Pecan Pie

1 pie crust  
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips  
2 cups pecan halves, chopped

1/2 cup brown sugar  
1/2 cup dark corn syrup  
3 eggs  
1 teaspoon vanilla

Preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Prepare pie crust according to its directions.

Sprinkle chocolate chips over bottom of crust; top with pecans. Combine sugar, syrup, eggs and vanilla; beat well and pour over pecans. Bake for 25 to 35 minutes until center is set. Serve with whipped topping or vanilla ice cream.

## Tips for a low-fat Thanksgiving

- ❑ Consider serving fewer appetizers, and avoid heavy, cream-based dips. Instead of crackers or chips, offer cut-up vegetables.
- ❑ Make a reduced-fat version of mashed potatoes using chicken stock, skim milk, or even the water the potatoes were boiled in, instead of cream.
- ❑ Consider serving simple steamed vegetables instead of gratin vegetable dishes or other fat-heavy casseroles.
- ❑ Reduce the fat in your homemade gravy by defatting the broth you use.
- ❑ Serve the turkey with the skin removed.
- ❑ Bake the stuffing instead of cooking it inside the bird. Eliminate sausage from your stuffing recipe or reduce the amount of sausage by half.

## LIFE (Continued from Page 5)

I snatched it up only to find to my dismay that the battery light was blinking. Normally the blinking light means that I have about two minutes to talk before the battery dies.

Remembering the number to the alarm room at the fire department back at Columbus AFB, I dialed. The no-service tone began to sound. I found the only way to get service was to hold it directly in the air three feet away from my head.

Pushing the speakerphone button, I held it in the air and yelled.

Somehow, after about seven short calls and over the roar of the ATV, Airman 1st Class Andrew Coleman, alarm room dispatcher, heard my voice. He quickly relayed the message to the Shuqualak fire station, and about 30 minutes after the ordeal began, I heard the firemen coming to help me. They quickly lifted the ATV, and I was able to crawl out from the miserable trap. If it weren't for God,

those firemen and the safety equipment that I was wearing, I would likely not be here today.

Nauseous, light-headed, hurt and weary, I wondered what might have happened if I hadn't been briefed to wear all of that safety equipment.

My message is simple: Each and every piece of safety equipment we're instructed to use is not meant to hinder us but rather to protect us. I promise.

I'm living proof.

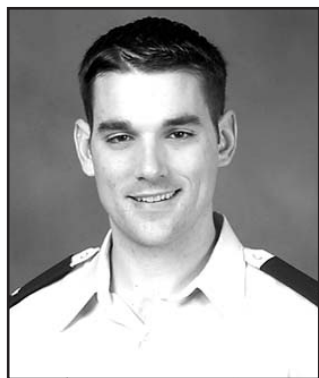




**1st Lt. Miguel de Vargas**  
Merida, Spain  
RC-135, Offut AFB, Neb.



**1st Lt. Timothy Fitzpatrick**  
Sanford, Maine  
A-10, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



**1st Lt. Mark Jones**  
Downingtown, Penn.  
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.

# SUPT Class 03-02 earns silver wings



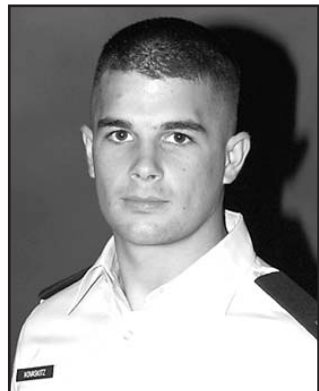
**2nd Lt. Scot Crowell**  
Pataskala, Ohio  
C-141, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio



**2nd Lt. Bradley Darling**  
Williamsville, Ill.  
F-15C, Tyndall AFB, Fla.



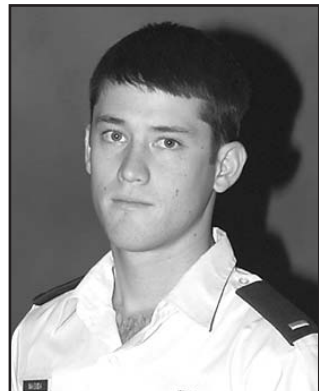
**2nd Lt. Lindsay Eggler**  
Warner Robins, Ga.  
C-130, Little Rock AFB, Ark.



**2nd Lt. Seth Kovaskitz**  
Murfreesboro, Tenn.  
C-5, Travis AFB, Calif.



**2nd Lt. Kimberly Krohmer**  
Atlanta, Ga.  
E-3, Elmendorf, Alaska



**2nd Lt. Michael Masuda**  
Tulahoma, Tenn.  
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 03-02 graduated at 8:30 a.m. today during a ceremony at the theater.

Twenty-five officers prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to be an Air Force pilot.

The graduation speaker is Gen. Robert “Doc” Foglesong, Vice Chief of Staff, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

As Vice Chief, he presides over the Air Staff and serves as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Joint Requirements Oversight Council.

Foglesong earned his wings at Columbus AFB in 1973.

Students received their silver pilot’s wings at today’s ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

Second Lts. Bradley Darling, T-38, and Matthew Inscoe, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander’s Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award were presented to 2nd Lts. Jeffery Schneider, T-38, and Ryan Theiss, T-1. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association — promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

Darling and Inscoe were named distinguished graduates.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight.

The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the twin-engine,

subsonic T-37 Tweet. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes about 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 flying hours.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38 Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine super-sonic jet.

T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation.

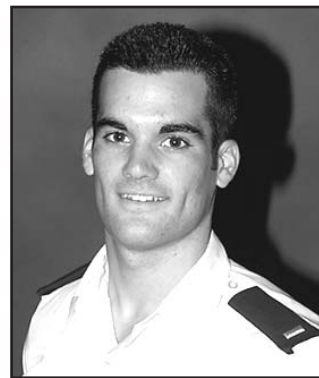
Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground events, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 flying hours.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place business jet.

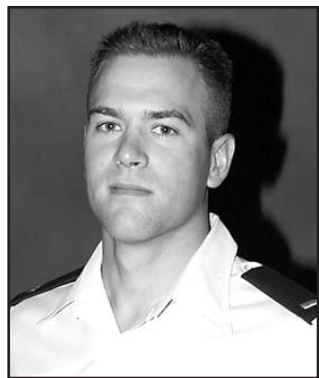
Instruction centers on crew coordination and man- agement, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions.

Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 flying hours.

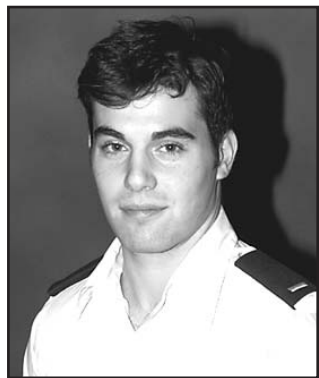
The class reunites on graduation day, when students receive the aero- nautical rating of pilot and begin their careers as U.S. Air Force pilots.



**2nd Lt. Brian Caramello**  
Folsom, Calif.  
T-37, Columbus AFB, Miss.



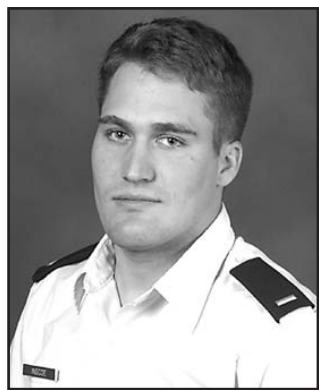
**2nd Lt. Joshua Churchard**  
Lebanon, Maine  
KC-135, Bangor, Maine (ANG)



**2nd Lt. Anthony Colella**  
Arlington, Va.  
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



**2nd Lt. Matthew Hall**  
Mascoutah, Ill.  
T-37, Columbus AFB, Miss.



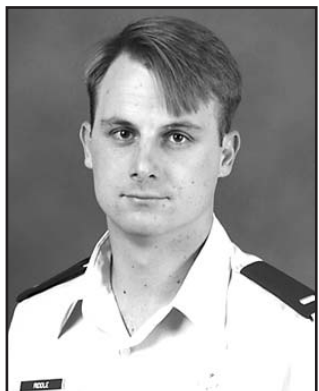
**2nd Lt. Matthew Inscoe**  
Lakewood, Colo.  
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



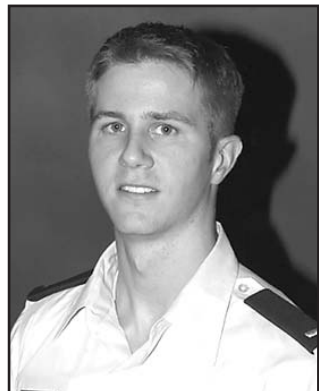
**2nd Lt. Michael Kleven**  
Huntington Beach, Calif.  
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



**2nd Lt. Craig Phelps**  
Keller, Texas  
T-6, Moody AFB, Ga.



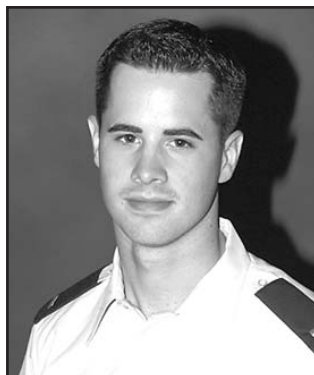
**2nd Lt. Jamison Riddle**  
Winter Park, Fla.  
C-5, Dover AFB, Del.



**2nd Lt. Jeffery Schneider**  
Dallas, Texas  
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



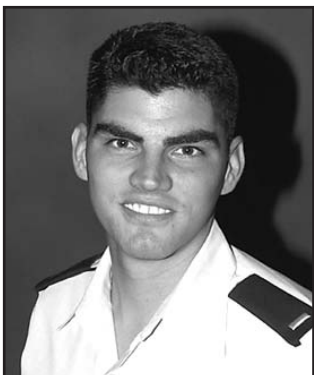
**2nd Lt. Scott Schroeder**  
New Salisbury, Ind.  
B-52, Barksdale, La.



**2nd Lt. Ryan Shireman**  
St. Louis, Mo.  
KC-135, Scott AFB, Ill. (ANG)



**2nd Lt. Scott Siems**  
Low Moor, Iowa  
A-10, Whiteman AFB, Mo. (AFRC)



**2nd Lt. Seth Storms**  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
KC-135, MacDill AFB, Fla.



**2nd Lt. Benjamin Swanson**  
Gaylord, Minn.  
C-130H, Minneapolis, Minn. (ANG)



**2nd Lt. John Talafuse**  
San Antonio, Texas  
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



**2nd Lt. Ryan Theiss**  
Tampa, Fla.  
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



## AT THE CHAPEL

### Chapel holiday schedule

#### Catholic

##### Sunday activities:

9:15 a.m. — Mass  
10:30 a.m. — CCD  
5 p.m. — Confessions  
5:30 p.m. — Mass

#### Wednesday

11:30 a.m. — Mass  
5:30 p.m. Nov. 27 — Thanksgiving vigil mass and pie social

#### Protestant

##### Sunday activities:

9 a.m. — Sunday school  
10:45 a.m. — Traditional worship  
1 p.m. — Contemporary worship  
**Wednesdays**  
5:30 p.m. — Video Bible study supper  
7:15 p.m. — Choir rehearsal  
**Thursdays**  
11:30 a.m. — Lunch Bible study

#### Jewish

Nov. 30 to Dec. 7 — Hannukah:  
Natalie Bledstein, lay leader; call 434-6566.

#### Islamic

Now to Dec. 4 — Ramadan at The Islamic Center in Starkville, Miss.; call 323-6559.

## AT THE MOVIES

All movies are shown at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted, at the base theater.

#### Today

“Barbershop” (R, language, sexual contend and drug references, 102 min.)  
Starring Ice Cube.

#### Saturday

“Undisputed” (R, strong language, 90 min.)  
Starring Wesley Snipes.

## CHANNEL 64

BLAZE 64 offers announcements for people living in base housing or the dormitories.

Call 2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett for more information at Ext. 7065.

#### Weekdays

9 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.  
Air Force Television News

No College Level Examination  
Tapes will be show due to  
Thanksgiving.

## FAMILY SUPPORT



(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the family support center unless otherwise specified. For more information, call Ext. 2790.)

**Hearts Apart social:** The Hearts Apart Holiday social is at 6 p.m. Dec. 3 at the family support center.

This social is for people who's spouse is deployed, remote or on an extended temporary duty assignment.

**National Military Family Month:** Forms to enter the Armed Service YMCA Art and Essay contests are available at the FSC.

Contest rewards go up to \$500 in U.S. savings bonds. Contests are open to children and teens of active-duty, reserve, Guard, and retired military; and those of Department of Defense and Coast Guard civilians. Call Lee Chouinard.

**Respite care program:** The Air Force Aid Society offers grants to active-duty Air Force people who have 24-hour care responsibilities for ill or disabled.

**Remote/deployed briefing:** Military people who are going remote or being deployed must attend a mandatory briefing offered at 9 a.m. every Thursday. Call Tech. Sgt. Jamey Coleman.

**Single parent luncheons:** These lunches are now the second Tuesday each month at the Columbus Club Happy Lounge. For more information, call Lee Chouinard.

**Aid Society's Grant Program:** The deadline to apply for the Air Force Aid Society's education grant is March 15.

The Gen. Henry H. Arnold Education Grant is \$1,500 and is available to eligible family members of active duty, reservists on extended active duty, Title 32 full-time active duty, retired, retired reservists with 20 years or more active-duty service and spouses of deceased Air Force people. For application and information Ext. 2790 or visit the Air Force Aid Society's Web site at [www.afas.org](http://www.afas.org).

**Childcare for PCS:** Arriving and departing active duty Air Force people can receive up to 20 hours of free childcare per child.

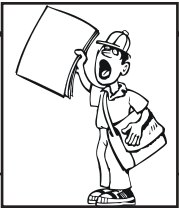


Airman 1st Class Chawntain Young

## New hours

**Caandi Mays, checkout clerk, rings up Maj. Andy Gaydon, 43rd Flying Training Squadron reserve pilot, at the commissary Wednesday. The commissary new hours effective Dec. 1 are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays; from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursdays; from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays; and is closed on Mondays. Call Ext. 7109.**

## BASE NOTES



holiday cookie drive is Dec. 16. The officer's spouses' club needs people to donate over 500 dozen cookies, brownies, fudge and other sweets to be packaged and delivered to Columbus AFB's single and unaccompanied people.

Cookies should be packaged in formed, disposable containers and dropped off at the community center between 6:30 to 9 a.m.

Volunteers are also needed to help package and deliver cookies Dec. 16. For more information, call Marcia Parsons at 434-6633 or Carole Funke at 434-5123.

**Shoe boxes:** The base chapel is collecting shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. This is a Samaritan's Purse charity that delivers items to children in war-ridden countries. Call Ext. 2500 or 434-6684.

**OSC scholarships:** The officer's spouses club offers scholarships to graduating high school seniors, spouses and current college students.

Every high school applicant must be a dependent of an active-duty or retired military person associated with Columbus AFB.

Continuing education applicants may be the spouse or child of an active-duty, retired, deceased or missing-in-action person. Applications can be picked up at the education center, family support center, or high school or college guidance office.

Application deadline is Feb. 7. For more information call 240-1695 or email [christy.milner@columbus.af.mil](mailto:christy.milner@columbus.af.mil).

**Holiday cookie drive:** The annual base

# Services: Check out what it has to offer

✓ **All-ranks bingo:** The club offers all-ranks bingo at 6 p.m. Fridays in the community center ballroom. People play five \$75 games, one \$100 game a \$1,000, which has a consolation prize of \$100 if the jackpot does not go in 51 numbers or less.

Admission fee for a nonmember is \$5. Call Ext. 2489.

✓ **Enlisted lounge entertainment:** Disc jockey Kool Kleve entertains from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. today. Call Ext. 2489.

✓ **College football:** Watch the college football game of your choice from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturdays at the Landing Lounge.

All ranks are welcome. The grill is open. Social hours are from noon to 1 p.m. and from 5 to 7 p.m. Call Ext. 2489

✓ **Professional basketball games:** The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip to Memphis, Tenn. Nov. 29 to watch the Los Angeles Lakers play the Memphis Grizzlies. Cost is \$120 per person and includes lodging (double occupancy), ticket to the game and transportation. A \$50 deposit is required when registering. Lodging is located within walking distance of the Pyramid and Beale Street. Call Ext. 7858.

✓ **Enlisted lounge open Thursdays:** The enlisted lounge is open from 4:30 to 10 p.m. Thursdays. Stop in to watch football.

✓ **Golf and bowling Christmas sale:** The bowling center and golf course are having a Christmas sale on outerwear and sporting good products in the base exchange Nov. 30. Stop by and do some holiday shopping. Call Ext. 7932 or Ext. 2426.

✓ **Month of the Military Family:** In celebration of Military Family Month, the 14th Services Division is giving away a vacation week through the Armed Forces Vacation Club. Winner picks the place and the week.

Register at any services activity by Nov. 30. Winner selected Dec. 1. To learn more about the Armed Forces Vacation Club, visit [www.afvclub.com](http://www.afvclub.com). Call Ext. 2337.

✓ **Crafts classes:** The skills development center offers youth classes to make mom or dad a gift. The adult classes including making an angel ornament, a Santa puzzle ornament and a clay pot soldier.

A display of the December crafts projects is available in the center. Call Ext. 7858.

✓ **Teen shopping trip:** The youth center offers a trip to Tupelo, Miss., for shopping at the Barnes Crossing Mall Dec. 7. The van leaves at 8:30 a.m. and returns around 4 p.m. Register by Dec. 5. Call Ext. 2504.

✓ **Shopping trip:** The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip to Birmingham, Ala. Dec. 7. Tour includes

visits to the Water Mark Place Outlet Mall and the River Chase Galleria Mall. Cost is \$15 per person. Call Ext. 7858.

✓ **4-H Club:** The youth center is organizing a 4-H club on base. Applications are available at the center and must be turned in by Dec. 11. Program is free and open to ages 6 through 18. The first meeting is at 6 p.m. Dec. 12. Call Ext. 2504.

✓ **Casino trip:** The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip Dec. 20 to the Silver Star Casino. Cost is \$15 and includes transportation and \$15 in coins. Call Ext. 7858.

✓ **Passport to Adventure Promotion:** The information, ticket and travel office offers a special promotion to customers through March 30.

Customers may register to win a cruise, airline tickets, rental car certificates and free hotel stays by stopping by the ITT office or visiting the ITT website at [www.afttravelonline.com](http://www.afttravelonline.com). Call Ext. 7858.

✓ **YES program:** Dependents of active duty military who are freshmen or above and plan to attend college within one year after their high school graduation should register for the Youth Employment Skills program.

Participants are employed at various locations around the base.

They earn \$4 per hour, and the money is held in an account until they enter college. Call Ext. 2504.

✓ **Congressional awards program:** Anyone ages 14 to 23 may register for the congressional awards program for volunteering in areas such as public service, personal development, fitness and expedition or exploration.

A participant must complete several hours of volunteer service.

As participants progress, they will be awarded the gold, silver and bronze medals.

The gold medal will be awarded when all hours are complete. Call Ext. 2504.

✓ **Regular volunteers needed:** The youth center is recruiting for regular volunteers to serve as chaperones and to assist the staff with normal programming. Call Ext. 2504.

✓ **Tumbling tots:** The youth center offers a tumbling tots class for ages 18 months to 4 years from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays and from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Thursdays.

Cost is \$40 per month and \$35 per month for the second child. Call Ext. 2504.

✓ **Teen of the month:** The youth center would like to recognize teens, ages 13 to 18. Teens who would like to be considered may pick up an application at the center.

The application addresses community service, school reports, a short essay and home and family lifestyle.

Winners are announced mid-month of each month. Call Ext. 2504.

## Columbus Club Lunch Buffet

Served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Cost: \$7.95  
Members receive a \$2 discount  
Price includes  
vegetable of the day, salad and tea

Receive a discount on food purchase of \$4 or more  
Ask your server for details  
EXCLUSIVE REWARDS FOR CLUB MEMBERS

Members  
First

Today  
Fried catfish  
Cube steak  
Apple cobbler

Monday  
Fried chicken  
Sausage and peppers  
Peach cobbler

Tuesday  
Pork chops  
Chicken fried steak  
Banana pudding

Wednesday  
Spaghetti  
Fettucini alfredo  
Apple cobbler

Thursday  
Club closed  
for Thanksgiving

Visit the Services website at ...  
[www.cafbgrapevine.com](http://www.cafbgrapevine.com)



Rachel Kasic

## Flightline breakfast

Jim Campbell, bowling center manager, sells a breakfast burrito to 1st Lt. Richard Brimer, 41st Flying Training Squadron. The bowling center offers this breakfast burrito delivery service to the flightline from 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. Monday to Friday. Call Ext. 2426.



**Airman Alexis Lloyd**  
Public affairs

A dislocated finger, a pulled hamstring and a runner’s up trophy is all the 48th Flying Training Squadron went home with after the 14th Security Forces Squadron won the 2002 championship flag football game 27-14, Nov. 14.

The playoffs began with the top five teams Nov. 13. The 14th Civil Engineer Squadron lost to the 14th SFS. The 14th Operations Support Squadron lost to the 48th FTS during overtime. Then the 14th SFS beat the 37th FTS to advance to the championship game.

“We got a bunch of our key players

tonight, which should make for a good game,” said Raymond Hackler, 14th SFS, right before kickoff.

The 14th SFS received the kickoff from the 48th FTS.

The cops drove down the field round-ing up three first downs, and the games first touchdown. They tacked on the extra point making the score 7-0.

The 48th FTS received the kickoff. A few plays later, the 14th SFS defense denied the 48th FTS a reception in the end zone, and the 48th FTS turned the ball over on downs to the cops.

The 14th SFS picked up a first down, almost threw an interception but made it to third and goal. The 48th FTS defense stood up and sacked the quarterback to

make it fourth and goal. The cops sideline yelled, “Go for it.” The quarterback threw the ball for a touchdown but was unable to get the extra point. The 14th SFS led the game, 13-0.

The 14th SFS kicked the ball all the way into the end zone, then sacked the quarterback in the end zone for a safety, bringing the score to 15-0 at half time.

“We’ll just have to see how the rest of the game goes now,” said Corey Simmons, 48th FTS, before the teams went back on the field.

Each team took a turn with the ball but was unable to score. The 48th FTS finally got its chance to score. The quarter-back threw a completion, and the 48th FTS offense’s flags slipped right through

the 14th SFS defense’s fingers. They added the extra point, bringing the score 15-7.

The 14th SFS nickel and dimed their way to the end zone for another touch-down but were still unable to add on the extra point.

After a series of first downs, the 48th FTS scored again and tacked on the extra point, making the score 21-14.

The 14th SFS quarterback ran for a first down, threw a first down catch and then threw another touchdown pass, bringing the final score to 27-14 to become the 2002 Flag Football Champions.

“We may have lost a few battles,” said Curtis Taylor, 14th SFS. “But we won the war.”

## SHORTS

### Youth basketball

Registration for youth basketball is open until Nov. 30 at the youth center. It’s open to ages 5 to 18.

The season is tentatively scheduled to start in December. Cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for nonmembers. Call Ext. 2504.

### Youth walk or run

The youth center starts a monthly fitness walk/run program for children at 4:30 p.m. Nov. 25. Parents are welcome to join. Refreshments are available. Call Ext. 2504.

### Soccer closing ceremony

The closing ceremony for youth soccer is at 6 p.m. Dec. 3.

Coaches and players should attend. The ceremony location is to be announced, but coaches will be informed. Call Ext. 2504.

### Youth indoor soccer

Registration for indoor soccer ends Dec. 15 at the youth center.

The program is open to ages 3 to 7. Cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for nonmembers. Volunteer coaches are needed.

Players must have a current physical on file or obtain one before the start of the season. Season begins in January 2003. Call Ext. 2504.

### Tae Kwon Do

This class is offered from 6 to 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday in the youth cen-

ter. Cost is \$40 per month. Student must be at least five years old to enroll. Call Ext. 2504.

### Personal trainers

Personal trainers are available at the fitness and sports center to spice up a workout routine or help a person get more out of their workout. Call Ext. 2773.

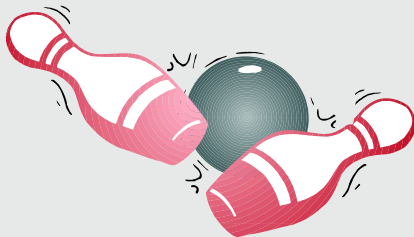
### Aerobics classes

Aerobics classes ranging from beginning step, kickboxing, spinning and yoga are offered every week at the fitness and sports center. Call Ext. 2772.

### Bowling standings

The following are the intramural Thursday leagues standings as of Nov. 14.

Teams	Wins	Losses
Strokin	68	20
Misfits	58	30
14th OSS	50	38
SFS #1	34	54
SFS #2	30	58
48th FTS	22	66



2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett

## Canned food

**Second Lt. Lauren Maher, 14th Medical Operations Squadron, carries food to the Mark Mitchell Shelter. The community Thanksgiving event at 7 p.m. Monday is accepting canned food items for the Helping Hands Food Bank.**

**Free holiday messages:** Do you have a deployed friend or family member that you’d like to send a holiday greeting to? As a public service, WCBI-TV, Channel 9 crews will tape your greeting for free from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at Leigh Mall in Columbus and at Barnes Crossing mall in Tupelo.

Reservations aren’t required. After taping, WCBI will give you the tape for mailing to your loved one. For more information, call 327-4444.

**Saying thanks:** A community Thanksgiving gathering featuring music and a service is set for 7 p.m. Monday at the Trotter Convention Center, upper level, located near the intersection of Highway 45 and Main Street in down-town Columbus.

The event is free and all are welcome but please bring a canned food item for the Helping Hands Food Bank. On a voluntary basis, monetary donations will be accepted to assist the Good Samaritan Clinic in providing low cost medical care following the recent tornado. For more information, call 328-4491.

**Foreign relations:** Several interna-

tional students at Mississippi University for Women are unable to go home for Thanksgiving.

The MUW needs volunteers to host a student for a meal or an overnigher. For more information, call Courtney Griffin-Taylor at 329-7108.

**Christmas parade:** An old-fashion Christmas parade is at 7 p.m. Dec. 2.

The route runs west from Mississippi University for Women, down College Street to the Columbus Welcome Center and then east down Main Street. Admission is free. The 41st Flying Training Squadron’s Arnold Flight and the youth center are participating in the event.

**Free holiday music:** Mississippi University for Women's Chorale annual holiday concert is at 7:45 p.m. Dec. 6 in historic Poindexter Hall on the MUW campus. The event is free, and the public welcome. For more information, call 329-7106.

**Singing Christmas Tree:** An orchestra and 100 singing voices form a Singing Christmas Tree at 5 p.m. Dec. 6,

7 and 8 at the First United Methodist Church on Main Street.

Admission is free, but tickets are needed to guarantee seating. For more information or to get a ticket, call 328-5252.

**Arts and crafts show:** Lake Lowndes State Park sponsors the 20th Indoor Arts and Crafts Show from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 7 in the Lake Lowndes Multi Sports Center Gymnasium.

For more information, call 328-2110.

**Boat parade:** A parade of lighted boats is at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 7 and will-cruise down the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, with viewing from the Columbus Marina on Wilkins-Wise Road. Admission is free. For more information, call 327-8450.

**The Messiah:** A free traditional community mass choir event is set for 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 10 at the Annunciation Catholic Church.

Tickets are available through the Columbus-Lowndes Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 328-4491.

**Ready, set, punch**

Airman Nakesha Tucker, 14th Mission Support Group sports specialist, fixes the punching bag in the fitness and sports center. The center is making a new room for more weight resistance machines. Call Ext. 2772.